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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. The Lodz Medical Academy
2. The Neuro-Surgical Hospital
of the Academy

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report describing the Lodz Medical Academy and the Neuro-Surgical Hospital of the Academy. The document includes a description of the physical location and buildings, institutions belonging to the Academy, conditions at the hospital, drug supply, the blood bank in Lodz, and brief sketches of some of the leading personalities.

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The Medical Academy in Lodz

1. The medical faculty of Lodz was an integral part of the university, located at 22, Nartowicza Street, until 1950 when it was established as a separate Medical Academy with departments (Wydzialy) of general medicine, stomatology, and pharmacy.

2. The Academy occupies a three story building at the corner of Zachodnia and Prochnika (formerly Zawadzka) Streets, which formerly served as a law school. This edifice houses the offices of the rector, his two deputies, and the deans, as well as the administrative sections of the institution.

3. Hospitals which belong to the Academy are dispersed at the following locations in Lodz:

a. The Barlickiego (formerly Mosciakiego) Hospital on

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-2-

Kopcińskiego Street, a large "U" shaped three story building, houses No. 1 Internal Diseases' Hospital (Pierwsza Wewnętrzna Klinika), No. 3 Internal Diseases' Hospital (Trzecia Wewnętrzna Klinika) (120 beds), the Laryngological Hospital, the Neurological (70 beds) and the Neuro-Surgical Hospital (35 beds), the Ophthalmic Hospital, and the Hospital of Dental Surgery, and an X-ray Institute. The number of beds is in sufficient for the hospital's requirements, occasionally necessitating the accommodation of patients in the corridors.

- b. The general Dispensary for ambulatory treatment, incorporates a pathological institute (Anatomia Patologiczna) and a special dispensary for university students, in a three story building on Kopcińskiego Street, opposite the aforementioned hospitals, which served as a residence before World War II. Some of the employees of the dispensary live on the premises.
- c. No. 2 Internal Diseases' Hospital (Wewnętrzna Druga) and No. 2 General Surgical Hospital, in a two story building at No. 1 or 3, Szterlinga Street, this structure was renovated in 1955, and a lecture hall added to its premises.

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-3-

25X1

- d. A Children's Hospital and two pediatric dispensaries occupy a number of one story buildings on Armji Czerwonej Street, the continuation of Stalina Street, before World War II this institution was known as the Anna Maria Children's Hospital.
- e. The Curie Sklodowskiej Maternity Hospital, a pre-war hospital.
- f. A Psychiatric Hospital, also a pre-war establishment, occupies a number of small buildings in the Kochanowka suburb of Lodz.
- g. A Contagious Diseases' Hospital, also a pre-war structure, is housed in a number of one story buildings and huts on Kniaziewicz Street, in the Radoboszcz suburb.
- h. The Surgical Hospital (Chirurgiczna, formerly known as Siostr Zakonnych Hospital), on Wigury Street.

4. The Academy also comprises the following institutions, all of which are located at 60 Narutowicza Street:

- a. Anatomical Institute (Zaklad Anatomji Prawidlowej);
- b. Forensic Medicine Institute (Zaklad Medycyny Sadowej);
- c. Histology Institute (Zaklad Histologii);
- d. Physio-pathological Institute (Zaklad Fiziopatologiczny);
- e. Endocrinological Institute (Zaklad Endokrynologii);
- f. Bacteriological Institute (Zaklad Bakteriologiczny), at 150 (?), Nowotki (formerly Pomorska) Street;

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-4-

25X1

- g. The Institute of Hygiene (Zaklad Higjeny), at its pre-war location on Na Wodnym Rynku Street;
- h. Institute of Labor Hygiene (Zaklad Medycyny Pracy) at 96, Narutowicza Street, opposite No. 22 Kopcinskiego Street.

Each of the institutes comprises a laboratory; facilities are generally rather poor, presumably as a result of insufficient financial means.

5. Doctors work six hours per day at the institutions of the Medical Academy, and eight hours at other hospitals in Lodz. Monthly salaries amount to 800 - 1,000 zloty in the case of the former, and slightly more (1,000 - 1,100) for doctors at general hospitals who, however, are frequently forced to work overtime. Few Lodz physicians are able to supplement their income by also maintaining a private practice.

The Neuro-Surgical Hospital of the Lodz Medical Academy.

6. Although prior to World War II a 20-bed hospital in Warsaw was the only Polish neuro-surgical institution, subsequently neuro-surgical hospitals were established within the framework of the Medical Academies of Gdansk, Lodz, and Krakow. The largest are the institutions in the latter town and in the capital, where all types of brain and spinal operations are carried out.

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-5-

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7. At the Lodz Neuro-Surgical Hospital, an average of five to six operations are carried out weekly. Most of the patients come from rural areas, and have been transferred for specialist treatment through local hospitals; post-operative cases are generally discharged back to the latter after three weeks. The hospital's surgical staff is composed of one docent and ten doctors.

8. The hospital suffers from a severe shortage of surgical instruments. From 1948-to 1955 the institution possessed temporarily only a single set of the standard apparatus known as ~~the~~^{the} Kleszcze Kolankowe^{v*}, which a visiting professor from Warsaw had loaned. In 1956, the hospital acquired two such instruments from the USSR which, however, appeared to be old and hardly fit for operations. In the summer of the same year anaesthetization equipment was delivered from Germany (Draeger-Romulus). The other apparatus [redacted]

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[redacted] is also old and quantitatively insufficient. The operating tables were imported [redacted]

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9. The supply of drugs is also far from satisfactory; frequently even standard medicines are unobtainable at the hospital. A particular shortage is felt with regard to vitamins B₁ and C₁, which are virtually non-existent anywhere in Lodz, while antibiotics are also in short supply and can be bought only from the Ministry of Health, with a special prescription, indicating the diagnosis and treatment. Poland manufactures penicillin and chloromycetin, while streptomycin is imported from the USSR [redacted]

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-6-

[] All these are only obtainable in hospitals, with the exception of penicillin which is sold in pharmacies.

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The Blood Bank in Lodz

10. The only blood bank in Lodz is situated on Gwardia Ludowa Street, close to the railway station. The institution does not use plasma, but acquires fresh blood from public donors in sufficient quantities. The comparatively high payment attracts many volunteers, including a considerable number of doctors and students from the Medical Academy. Since 1954, the bank has also been supplying blood in the form of a semi-liquid paste for transfusions (Krew Do Odbytnicza) which is also available in almost unlimited quantities.

Medical Information Concerning the Armed Forces

11. The military hospital in Lodz, situated at 22, Zeromskiego Street, is the only Polish military hospital which incorporates a 20-bed neuro-surgical ward.

12. A military medical school for doctors and students of the Medical Academy on reserve duty ~~was~~ existed in Srem in 1952. The courses there extended over a period of five months, and a number of the graduates used to be transferred to service with the regular army. Since 1955, however, members of the armed forces attend the courses of the Lodz Medical Academy under military scholarship arrangements. The Academy may be in the process of being taken over by the military entirely; all freshmen of the 1955-1956 class are members of the armed forces who attend courses in uniform, and are accommodated in military camps.

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-7-

13. The drafting of civilian doctors for military reserve duty does not seem to be consistent; some physicians who had attended the school in Srem were not called up at all, whereas others without comparable specialist training were drafted for service several times.

14. The following personalities are known:

- a. Bardach, (fnu), has been the director of the Lodz surgical hospital since 1955.

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- b. Stefan Barginski has been the dean of the school of general medicine since 1955.

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- c. Chorowski, (fnu) professor from the Warsaw Medical Academy, lectures in neuro-surgery at Lodz.

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- d. Grott, (fnu) director of the No. 1 Internal Diseases' Hospital.

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-8-

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e. Eugeniusz Hermangen. [] is a neurologist in Lodz. []

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f. Adam Kunicki [] lectures in neuro-surgery at the Lodz Medical Academy. []

g. Pruszczyński, (fnu) [] has been the Academy's vice rector for didactic affairs since 1955. []

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h. Radziminski, (fnu) [] is the vice rector for clinical affairs, also a lecturer in neurology. []

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i. Sobanski, (fnu) [] lectures in ophthalmology. []

j. Stefanowski, (fnu) [] has been the rector of of the Lodz Medical Academy since 1955. []

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k. Jerzy Szapira [] a neuro-surgeon, moved to Lodz from Warsaw in 1956. []

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-9-

- l. Wicenty Tomaszow [redacted] director of the No. 3
Surgical Hospital in Lodz. [redacted]

- m. Tadeusz Wasilewski [redacted] a former lecturer at Poznan,
is a lecturer in anatomy at the Lodz Medical Academy.

- n. Jerzy Zakubowski, (formerly Muszkatenblut) [redacted] is
the director of the No. 2 Internal Diseases' Hospital
in Lodz. [redacted]

* Literally: "Knee tongs"

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